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Congressional Presentation Document

Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)

FY 2018

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FY 2018 MRA Summaries

Migration and Refugee Assistance

(\$ in thousands)

	FY 2016 Actual ¹	FY 2017 Estimate ²	FY 2018 Request
TOTAL - MRA	3,066,000	3,364,215	2,746,141

Total Enduring - MRA	938,886	937,101	715,241
PRM - Population, Refugees, and Migration	938,886	*	715,241
Africa	-	*	-
East Asia	78,700	*	57,600
Europe	-	*	-
Near East	-	*	-
South Asia	-	*	-
Western Hemisphere	65,650	*	51,300
Protection Priorities	245,605	*	113,506
Migration	33,406	*	30,335
Administrative Expenses	42,825	*	45,000
Humanitarian Migrants to Israel	10,000	*	7,500
Refugee Admissions	462,700	*	410,000

Total OCO - MRA	2,127,114	2,127,114	2,030,900
PRM - Population, Refugees, and Migration	2,127,114	*	2,030,900
Africa	613,001	*	600,000
Europe	85,350	*	46,400
Near East	1,302,488	*	1,195,200
South Asia	68,360	*	94,400
Protection Priorities	57,915	*	94,900

Total SAAA OCO - MRA	-	300	-
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1/ The FY 2016 Enduring level reflects a transfer of \$7.0 million from the Economic Support Fund.

2/ The FY 2017 Estimate reflects the annualized Continuing Resolution plus the Security Assistance Appropriations Act (P.L. 114-254).

**U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration**



FY 2018 Statement by Acting Assistant Secretary Simon Henshaw

The Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) acts on behalf of the American people to save lives, ease suffering, and uphold human dignity for millions of the most vulnerable people in the world. Appropriated funds are essential to U.S. global leadership in support of humanitarian goals, policies, and operations. For FY 2018, the request for the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) account totals \$2.75 billion, of which \$2,003.6 million is in Overseas Contingency Operations (MRA/OCO) and \$742.5 million in MRA enduring funding. No funding for the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) Account is being requested. Within those totals, the Refugee Admissions request is \$410 million, the Overseas Assistance request is \$2,283 million, the Humanitarian Migrants to Israel request is \$7.5 million, and Administrative Expenses are budgeted at \$45 million.

American Leadership: Responding to the Global Displacement Crisis

With nearly 66 million people across the globe forcibly displaced from their homes and millions more people migrating in search of a better future, displacement and international migration have become defining foreign policy and security challenges of our era. Of these 66 million, over 22 million have fled conflict and persecution and sought safety in another country to become refugees. Over 40 million remain within their home countries as internally displaced persons (IDPs), while nearly three million are asylum seekers. U.S. humanitarian leadership, assistance, and diplomacy are vital to protecting those who flee persecution and conflict as well as pressing for the peace and stability required to enable refugees and IDPs to return to their homes. In crisis after crisis – from the Lake Chad Basin to Afghanistan to Colombia to South Sudan to Syria – the State Department, through the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), has spearheaded the international response, mobilized and channeled aid to those in need, and spoken out to protect the rights and improve the treatment of the displaced, stateless, and vulnerable migrants. Our efforts have saved millions of lives, provided hope and dignity to the most vulnerable, encouraged other donors to do more, and supported diplomatic efforts to end the conflicts driving displacement.

PRM leads humanitarian action and policy in three ways: (1) humanitarian diplomacy ensures international humanitarian law and norms are respected, other nations are bearing their fair share of the burden, and international migration policies and practices respect borders and protect sovereignty; (2) life-saving assistance provides protection for the world's most vulnerable displaced people through a network of capable partners; (3) support for voluntary repatriation, local integration, and resettlement of refugees overseas provide durable solutions.

Through PRM, the United States is a leading contributor to United Nations and other humanitarian organizations. Primary partners include the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and dozens of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). These organizations deliver essential life-saving assistance, such as shelter, clean water, and health care; they protect the rights of the displaced and care and advocate for the most vulnerable. Our partners reunite families, educate children and youth, and help people gain the skills needed to be self-reliant, resilient, and contributing members of their host communities. PRM works primarily through multilateral organizations in order to leverage the influence of the

international community's shared values, enhance international coordination, and achieve economies of scale and efficiencies by working with other governments.

Our core goals are to: save lives, ease suffering, and promote human dignity through efficient and effective humanitarian assistance; promote and provide durable and interim solutions for populations of concern through collaboration with the international community; advocate for the protection of vulnerable populations by exerting leadership in the international community; and manage PRM resources responsibly by promoting best practices in humanitarian response.

Humanitarian Diplomacy: Protection is Central

Protection is at the core of PRM's humanitarian mission. We seek to integrate protection for vulnerable populations into our assistance programs and reinforce these efforts through robust diplomacy. Among the Bureau's protection priorities for refugees, IDPs, vulnerable migrants, and stateless persons are: preserving first asylum and protecting refugees from forcible return to a place where their lives or freedom would be threatened (*refoulement*); ensuring that humanitarian organizations can reach people in need of assistance; providing registration, status determination, and documentation; ensuring safety from physical abuse and violence, including from gender-based violence (GBV), sexual exploitation and abuse; protecting people from forcible recruitment into fighting forces; preventing and resolving statelessness; and reunifying separated families.

For example, GBV, including sexual violence, domestic violence, and child marriage, remains widespread and is exacerbated by conflict and displacement. PRM is committed to addressing gender-based violence as a life-saving priority through the protection and empowerment of women and girls. This is the goal of our *Safe from the Start* initiative, in collaboration with USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, through which the United States has provided more than \$55 million since 2013 to strengthen the core capacity of our key humanitarian partners to address GBV from the earliest phases of an emergency. Through this initiative, PRM supports training for frontline aid workers to ensure that risks are identified early, safeguards are put in place before abuses occur, and adequate services are provided to survivors.

Systemic Change: Enhancing Coordination and Sharing Responsibility

Record levels and changing patterns of displacement and the protracted nature of conflicts are straining humanitarian capacity and placing new pressures on the international system set up to deal with emergencies. In recent years, people chased from their homes have found few prospects for return. Nearly half of all refugees – 45 percent – have remained in exile for five years or more. Midwives in some refugee camps are delivering *the grandchildren* of those who first fled. And today, the vast majority of refugees in most regions live not in camps, but in cities and towns. The effects of these phenomena have caused the international community to examine the international humanitarian system.

PRM works with U.S. government interagency colleagues to prepare for future crises by seeking reform and strengthening of the international humanitarian system. In partnership with USAID, PRM used the first-ever World Humanitarian Summit (held in 2016) to advocate for important reforms to improve international response to emergencies – to ensure that donors and aid agencies are nimble, innovative, efficient, and accountable in meeting the new and heightened challenges we face. That is why the United States joined with other donor governments and humanitarian agencies in what is known as the “Grand Bargain,” which aims to strengthen how humanitarian assistance efforts are designed, funded, implemented, and evaluated in order to maximize effectiveness and enhance accountability to affected populations. Donors agreed to greater flexibility of funding if implementers, among other things, achieved joint and impartial needs assessments, prioritization of appeals, unified response, and effective and accountable in-country leadership.

The United States is committed to increasing the number of countries that contribute to refugee assistance, growing the pool of private sector and civil society partners that provide humanitarian aid, and increasing the coherence of relief and development work. Along with the governments of Canada, Ethiopia, Germany, Jordan, Mexico, and Sweden, the

United States co-hosted the Leaders' Refugee Summit at the 2016 UN General Assembly to draw attention to the global displacement crisis. Through direct humanitarian diplomacy, we were able to secure from more than 30 donors commitments to provide an additional \$4.5 billion for international humanitarian organizations in 2016 over 2015 levels. The United States also encouraged refugee hosting countries to commit to increasing the number of refugees in public schools by one million and the number able to lawfully work by one million; both goals were achieved. More than 50 companies, including Goldman Sachs, HP, and Uber, also put forward commitments to address the global displacement crisis.

The United States was participated in negotiating the September 2016 "New York Declaration on large movements of refugees and migrants" (The New York Declaration), which resulted in a UN member states' commitment to adopt a Global Compact on Refugees in 2018, as well as agreement on the accompanying Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), designed to better meet the needs of refugees and the communities that host them. The CRRF brings together development agencies and international financial institutions along with the private sector to expand available resources and achieve greater responsibility sharing and to focus on longer-term solutions at the outset of an emergency. The aim of the CRRF is to ease pressure on refugee hosting countries, enhance refugee self-reliance, expand refugee access to third country solutions, and support conditions in countries of origin for safe and voluntary returns. PRM is supporting UNHCR in the implementation of the CRRF in the Somalia region, Tanzania, Uganda, Brazil, Ecuador, and Honduras and plans to lead U.S. engagement in discussions on the Global Compact of Refugees in 2018.

Through U.S. contributions to IO and NGO partners, we also support governments hosting large numbers of refugees as a result of protracted conflict. These include Turkey and Pakistan, which host 2.5 and 1.6 million refugees respectively, and Lebanon and Jordan, where refugees now account for 20% and 10% of the total populations, respectively. With scarce resources and public services already stretched, host governments and communities need help building schools and hospitals, expanding and upgrading water and sewer systems, providing an adequate safety net, and creating job opportunities. To meet these long-term needs, PRM is working with other U.S. agencies to support the World Bank's initiative to establish a Global Crisis Response Platform to provide concessional financing to refugee hosting countries, including middle-income countries previously ineligible for such assistance. The Platform will provide additional financing and enable host governments to make investments to stimulate economic growth, expand educational opportunities, and alleviate strains on infrastructure and social services. We also continue to work with USAID to coordinate the assistance we deliver and to break down barriers between development and humanitarian programs.

Migration Policy: Advancing a Safe, Orderly, and Regular Process

Of the world's 7.4 billion people, 244 million are international migrants. Migrants are often exceptionally vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, including human trafficking and sexual violence, and face grave dangers, such as drowning at sea, while in search of a better way of life or to reunify with their families already living abroad. In fact, the number of reported migrant deaths jumped by a third last year to nearly 7,500.

Our migration policy encourages migration that is safe, legal, and orderly. We support a range of efforts by IOM, UNHCR, foreign governments, and civil society to identify, screen, and protect vulnerable migrants and to strengthen asylum systems. In the Americas, for example, PRM is working to deter irregular migration to the United States by highlighting the dangers of the journey and to encourage migrants to seek out legal means of regional migration. We are concurrently working with migration officials to assist them in identifying vulnerable migrants along the human smuggling routes to rescue victims of human trafficking. And we continue to encourage countries to collaborate to assist stranded migrants, to identify and aid victims of human trafficking, to crack down on human trafficking and smuggling networks, and to manage migration more humanely.

The United States is working to strengthen the international migration system and to encourage all states to adopt the processes and systems that can yield safe, orderly, and regular migration. The New York Declaration affirms the human rights of migrants and encourages the international community to address the underlying causes for unsafe and irregular migration. Building on the Declaration, PRM is coordinating U.S. government participation in the negotiation of the

Global Compact on Safe, Regular, and Orderly Migration, which is to be adopted by the end of 2018 and will support the development and implementation of the policies, procedures, and new forms of global cooperation and migration governance that can reduce irregular migration, develop new paths for legal migration, and reduce vulnerabilities for all migrants.

Refugee Admissions: Welcoming the Most Vulnerable while Safeguarding our Security

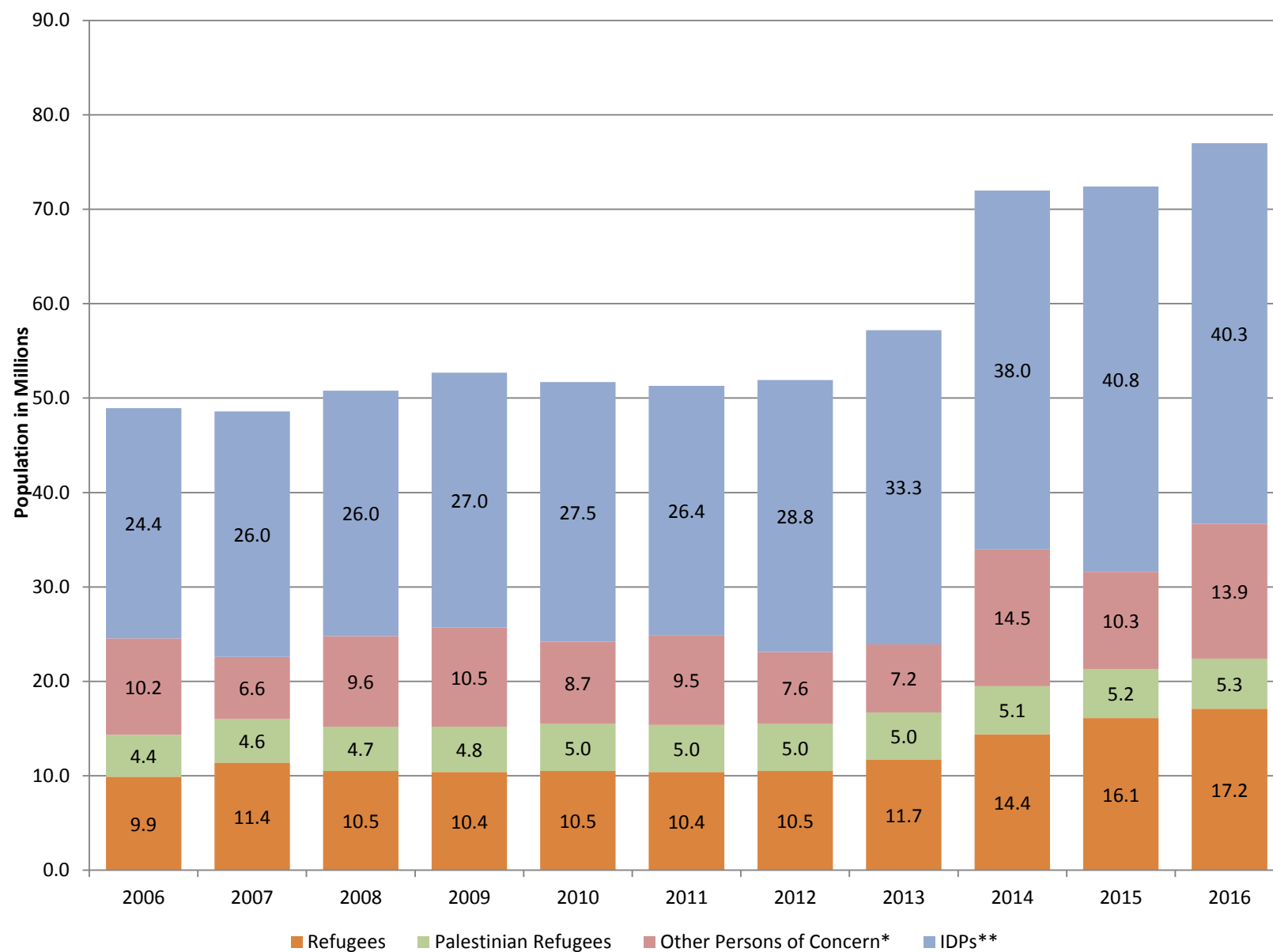
The Bureau also manages the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), an important durable solution for some of the most vulnerable refugees and an important complement to the larger overseas protection and assistance programs of the Bureau. PRM works closely with UNHCR and other partners to identify refugees in need of resettlement in a third country. Separately, specially-trained DHS officers conduct in-depth, in-person, overseas interviews of applicants, all of whom additionally must pass security and health screening, before transitioning to new lives in the United States. Since 1975, the United States has resettled more than three million vulnerable refugees. We admitted 84,994 refugees in FY 2016 and expect a lower number of arrivals in FY 2017.

The American people and community groups have welcomed refugees fleeing persecution for decades as part of our core humanitarian commitment, and refugees in turn have greatly enriched our communities and our country. Refugees bring energy, dynamism, a desire to work hard, and a deep appreciation for the freedom and safety our country provides. They contribute to the social fabric of our communities by joining the workforce as colleagues and taxpayers, enrolling their children in and playing an active role in our schools, starting new businesses and serving our country through military and other public service. Research shows that refugees are resilient, entrepreneurial, and are helping to reverse economic and population decline in communities such as Buffalo, New York and Cleveland, Ohio.

The safety and security of the American people is our foremost priority. While the overall USRAP is managed by State/PRM, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) manages the intensive interagency security screening process, including the participation of the National Counterterrorism Center and additional intelligence agencies, the FBI and the Departments of State and Defense. Under the leadership of DHS, all of the participating screening agencies have engaged in a constant process of reviewing and improving security protocols as new technologies and methods have become available in a constant effort to ensure that this important humanitarian program continues to operate consistent with our primary responsibility to the safety and security of the American people. DHS has the sole authority to grant refugee admission to the US and will only do so after a refugee is not found to pose a security concern. Refugees are subject to the most rigorous and comprehensive security screenings of any category of traveler to the United States. When in doubt, DHS has unlimited discretion to deny a refugee admission to the US, and the individual will not be permitted to travel to the United States.

Humanitarian action is an integral part of U.S. foreign policy: Our strategic actions have important humanitarian consequences and humanitarian action helps shape the strategic environment to solve conflicts. In the year ahead, we will continue to rely on the support of Congress and the American people to maintain the United States' unwavering commitment to humanitarianism.

PRM Populations of Concern, 2006-2016



Data sources: UNHCR, UNRWA, Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC).

*Other Populations of Concern to PRM include asylum seekers, stateless persons, and returnees. Figures do not include conflict victims assisted by ICRC or vulnerable migrants.

** Includes only conflict-affected IDPs as reported by IDMC.

Migration and Refugee Assistance Overview

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual ¹	FY 2017 Estimate ²	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance	3,066,000	3,364,215	2,746,141	-618,074
Enduring	938,886	937,101	715,241	-221,860
Overseas Contingency Operations	2,127,114	2,127,114	2,030,900	-96,214
Security Assistance Appropriations Act (Overseas Contingency Operations)	-	300,000	-	-300,000

1/ The FY 2016 enduring level includes the transfer of \$7.0 million from the Economic Support Fund.

2/ The FY 2017 Estimate includes funding from the annualized Continuing Resolution and the Security Assistance Appropriations Act (P.L. 114-254).

Through the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)'s global programs, the U.S. government seeks to protect and assist the world's most vulnerable people including refugees, conflict victims, internally displaced persons (IDPs), stateless persons, and vulnerable migrants. PRM-supported activities contribute to regional stability and support U.S. strategic foreign policy objectives, work with American communities to welcome refugees to the United States, and promote best practices and strong support for international humanitarian operations worldwide. In partnership with the world's leading international and nongovernmental humanitarian organizations, programs funded through the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) account save lives and ease suffering, uphold human dignity, and play a critical role in helping to mitigate and resolve major conflicts and crises in Afghanistan, Burundi, Burma, Iraq, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, Yemen, and elsewhere. PRM's humanitarian assistance, coupled with diplomacy, forms an essential component of U.S. foreign policy by helping to stabilize volatile situations and by strengthening bilateral relationships with key refugee-hosting partners, such as Kenya, Turkey, Jordan, and Pakistan. In many cases, PRM assistance and resettlement programs are essential to supporting and maintaining host countries' political will to provide protection and asylum to hundreds of thousands of refugees.

MRA-funded programs meet basic needs such as water and sanitation, nutrition and health care, emergency shelter, and family reunification, while also supporting the resilience of refugees and their host communities by providing education and livelihoods opportunities. PRM programs and diplomatic efforts emphasize protection of the most vulnerable, particularly women and children; support solutions to displacement through voluntary repatriation, local integration, or refugee resettlement in a third country; and foster the humane and effective management of international migration policies. MRA funding also provides the U.S. an essential platform for shaping refugee and migration policies and ensuring that humanitarian principles continue to be respected. For FY 2018, the U.S. government will urge other donors, including non-traditional donors, to increase funding contributions for humanitarian assistance thereby lessening the burden on the United States to respond. It will also continue to challenge international and non-governmental relief organizations to become more efficient and effective in order to maximize the benefit to recipients of assistance.

The FY 2018 MRA enduring request of \$715.2 million will fund contributions to key multilateral organizations such as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as well as other international and non-governmental organizations that address pressing humanitarian needs overseas and resettle refugees in the United States. Programmatically, these resources will focus on regions where Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding has not generally been used to date. For FY 2018, the core U.S. contribution for the UN Office of the Coordinator for Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA) is requested in the MRA enduring request.

The FY 2018 request also includes \$2,030.9 million under the MRA-OCO heading for humanitarian needs, with a particular emphasis on populations impacted by conflict and persecution. These funds will support multilateral organizations, including UNHCR, ICRC, IOM, and the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), as well as non-governmental organizations that respond to the immense needs of conflict victims and forcibly displaced persons in other countries. The Budget also includes broad transfer language that will allow funding to shift among OCO accounts, including between IDA and MRA accounts, as required to meet changing needs. For example, this will allow funding to shift to MRA if there is an unexpected increase in refugee needs or to IDA if there is an unexpected increase in internal displacements in evolving conflicts.

Due to the timing of the generous FY 2017 appropriation for State and USAID humanitarian assistance, which was higher than anticipated, the carryover of MRA from FY 2017 into FY 2018 will likely be significant even while responding to new and ongoing needs.

Funds traditionally requested for the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) account are being requested as MRA.

Overseas Assistance

	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase/ Decrease
TOTAL – Overseas Assistance	2,550,475	*	2,283,641	-266,834

Total Enduring – MRA Overseas Assistance	423,361	*	252,741	-170,620
East Asia	78,700	*	57,600	-21,100
Western Hemisphere	65,650	*	51,300	-14,350
Protection Priorities	245,605	*	113,506	-132,099
Migration	33,406	*	30,335	-3,071
Total OCO – MRA Overseas Assistance	2,127,114	*	2,030,900	-96,214
Africa	613,001	*	600,000	-13,001
Europe	85,350	*	46,400	-38,950
Near East	1,302,488	*	1,195,200	-107,288
South Asia	68,360	*	94,400	26,040
Protection Priorities	57,915	*	94,900	36,985

FY 2018 Request

Most of the FY 2018 MRA request will be used to provide U.S. contributions to four international organizations to meet their requirements for calendar year 2018. These are the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The United States demonstrates strong leadership and commitment to these institutions through proactive engagement in governing bodies, robust funding, and active monitoring on the ground through refugee coordinators overseas and PRM program officers. Our expectation is that other donors – in the spirit of responsibility sharing – will provide commensurate support. Being an early and reliable contributor to these organizations also ensures that they can respond quickly to emergencies throughout the world to meet humanitarian needs.

UNHCR is an indispensable partner for the United States and a critical player in effective multilateral humanitarian response. The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness give UNHCR a mandate to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and stateless persons, respectively, and to work toward lasting solutions to their displacement. UNHCR's global network, its staff in 125 countries, and its partnerships with other humanitarian organizations provide protection, solutions, life-saving assistance, and advocacy for more than 65 million persons of concern, including millions of internally displaced persons (IDPs). UNHCR programs provide legal and physical protection, and meet urgent needs for water, sanitation, shelter, food, health care, and primary education. UNHCR also plays an essential role in seeking permanent solutions for refugees. It supports safe and voluntary repatriation and reintegration operations, facilitates local integration of refugees into host countries, and assists with third country resettlement.

ICRC has a unique status as an independent humanitarian organization mandated by the Geneva Conventions to protect conflict victims. Its respected neutrality, independence, and impartiality enable it to operate in war zones and often gain access to areas – and thus to people in need – that no other organization can reach. This makes ICRC an invaluable partner in responding to humanitarian needs. The organization's primary goals are to protect and assist civilian victims

of armed conflict (including millions of IDPs), trace missing persons, reunite separated family members, monitor treatment of prisoners of war, and disseminate information on and build respect for the principles of international humanitarian law.

UNRWA is mandated by the United Nations to provide education, health, relief, and social services to nearly 5.3 million registered Palestinian refugees residing in Jordan, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, and the West Bank. UNRWA also provides emergency food, health, and other assistance to vulnerable Palestinian refugees during humanitarian crises, such as the war in Syria and in the aftermath of the 2014 conflict in Gaza. UNRWA plays a stabilizing role in the Middle East through its assistance programs, serving as an important counterweight to extremist elements. Given UNRWA's humanitarian operations in areas where terrorist organizations are active, the U.S. Department of State continues to monitor UNRWA closely to ensure that the agency is taking all possible measures to keep terrorists from benefitting from U.S. government funding.

IOM is the leading international organization on migration and an important partner in advancing the U.S. policy objective of promoting orderly and humane migration. IOM works primarily in six service areas: assisted voluntary returns and reintegration; counter-trafficking; migration and health; transportation; labor migration; and technical cooperation on migration. International migration issues reflect and affect global trends, such as economic downturns, climate change, peace and security, and global health threats. U.S. government diplomatic engagement with IOM and our support for its assistance programs are critical to helping ensure that governments can manage migration while ensuring that migrants are treated with dignity and can seek international protection when needed.

In FY 2018, MRA will become the source of funding for the core contribution to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), which provides effective public advocacy, useful and timely data, and efficient and coordinated responses to humanitarian emergencies, thereby increasing the effectiveness of U.S. contributions. Previously, this funding came from the International Organizations and Programs Account.

MRA funds may also support the activities of other international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to meet specific program needs and objectives. Other international organizations receiving MRA funds in the past include the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the UN Development Program (UNDP), the World Food Program (WFP), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Of the 81 NGOs receiving MRA funds for overseas assistance in FY 2016, the top 10 recipients were: the International Rescue Committee, International Medical Corps, Mercy Corps, Danish Refugee Council, Catholic Relief Services, Save the Children Federation, Norwegian Refugee Council, American Refugee Committee, Center for Victims of Torture, and the Lutheran World Federation. Funding for NGO programs typically covers a 12-month period, but multi-year funding is possible and helps facilitate planning when crises and displacement are protracted.

The U.S. Department of State may reallocate funds among regions or organizations within the Overseas Assistance request in response to changing requirements.

Assistance Programs in Africa

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Overseas Contingency Operations	613,001	*	600,000	-13,001

FY 2018 Request

The FY 2018 MRA-OCO request for Africa will enable PRM to support programs and operations that save lives and ease the suffering of over 5.5 million refugees and asylum seekers and 10 million IDPs throughout the continent. The number of African refugees has risen by nearly one million since the start of 2015. Violence remains a key driver of displacement, including the brutal violence of ISIS-affiliated groups in the Lake Chad Basin, Somalia, and Libya. Over ninety percent of Africa's refugees and IDPs have fled from crises in Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Libya, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan. Those countries' neighbors absorb most of the refugees and asylum seekers, sometimes hosting people from more than one country. Uganda, for example, is simultaneously coping with influxes from South Sudan, the DRC, and Burundi, along with protracted caseloads from these and other countries in the region. North African countries host Syrian refugees as well as Sub-Saharan refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants en route to Europe. Chaos in Libya has prompted and provides opportunities for many to attempt dangerous Mediterranean crossings, and many suffer horrific conditions on the journey to the Libyan coast.

Funds will support UNHCR's operations to provide protection, assistance, and durable solutions to populations of concern in nearly all of the 55 countries in Africa. The request will also support ICRC operations in over 40 countries in Africa to protect and assist conflict victims and to promote compliance with international humanitarian law. Humanitarian needs are expected to remain high in FY 2018 due to protracted conflict and violence in many countries. However, PRM and the organizations it supports see and plan to support opportunities for refugees to voluntarily return home, such as to Cote d'Ivoire and parts of Somalia. There are also opportunities for local integration in countries like Zambia and perhaps for some smaller caseloads in West African coastal countries.

Top priorities include maintaining access to asylum, keeping refugee and IDP sites secure and neutral, preventing and responding to gender-based violence in all its forms, achieving humanitarian access in conflict zones, biometrically registering refugees for protection and accountability purposes, reaching minimum standards of assistance for those people who need aid, promoting self-reliance whenever possible, achieving maximum social cohesion between refugees and hosts, sustaining voluntary returns by helping ensure that basic services are available when and where refugees return home, and taking advantage of renewed international interest in increasing coherence between relief and development programming.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- PRM's humanitarian advocacy and assistance helped keep borders open to those fleeing persecution and conflict, saved lives, prevented malnutrition and starvation, and provided health care to refugees, IDPs, and conflict victims throughout Africa. PRM worked with international partners and governments to provide immediate, life-saving goods and services as well as economic empowerment and education to those displaced by conflicts in Burundi, South Sudan, Somalia, Libya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, and the Central African Republic and by the violent extremist group Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin Region (includes Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger).

- Responding to PRM advocacy on the desirability of providing refugees with more access to legal work and educational opportunities, a number of the largest refugee-hosting countries on the continent (Cameroon, Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia) made significant commitments at the 2016 Leaders' Summit on Refugees to better integrate refugees into their countries.
- In FY 2016 PRM-funded humanitarian organizations provided protection and multi-sectoral assistance for refugees and conflict victims in South Sudan and South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries. PRM-supported programs provided protection, education, health and nutrition, and medical services for approximately 1.7 million IDPs in South Sudan and more than one million South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries. PRM implementing partners, including UNHCR, continued to prioritize assistance for protection and gender-based violence prevention activities. PRM programs were vital to supporting efforts to bring aid to parts of South Sudan previously blocked due to ongoing fighting.
- The Lake Chad Basin crisis, provoked by the violent extremist group Boko Haram, has displaced millions of people across four countries, and the situation is particularly threatening in northern Nigeria, where there are now some two million IDPs. PRM partnered with international organizations, including UNHCR and ICRC, and worked with governments in the region to scale up the international response to address the humanitarian crisis, while countering any efforts to forcibly return refugees and IDPs.
- In response to continuing electoral-related violence in Burundi, which began in late March 2015 and has forced more than 400,000 Burundi refugees to flee the country, PRM provided more than \$55 million in humanitarian assistance to support protection activities and services, such as primary health care, shelter, water, and sanitation for refugees in neighboring countries. The Bureau supported regional diplomacy efforts to protect those displaced by the conflict – including from recruitment into fighting forces – and contributed humanitarian analysis to inform the U.S. interagency strategy to address the crisis.
- Despite the still unsettled conditions in major parts of Somalia, PRM worked with Embassy Nairobi (Kenya), UNHCR, and other donors to support appropriately voluntary returns to Somalia while maintaining safe asylum for those in Kenya and the rest of the Horn of Africa still unable or unwilling to return.
- PRM remained a leader in the humanitarian community's effort to address gender-based violence (GBV) more quickly and consistently in emergencies through high-level meetings and events, innovative programming, field monitoring, and direct engagement with other donors, host governments, NGOs, and international organizations. Reports of widespread sexual violence in Burundi and South Sudan helped to galvanize international attention to the issue, including the particular vulnerabilities of women and girls. The U.S. government's *Safe from the Start* initiative supported GBV programming in DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda to address the acute and specific needs of refugee women and girls in the region.
- In Egypt, PRM supported both the Syria regional response for the 120,000 Syrian refugees in country and the urban refugee response for the growing population of African refugees and refugees of other nationalities. As Egypt struggles economically and the protection space deteriorates, PRM partners have provided key interventions in cash assistance, legal assistance, GBV prevention and response, and psychosocial services programming.
- In Algeria, PRM continued to support the longstanding Sahrawi refugee community, in particular after devastating flooding early in FY 2016. PRM contributions to UNHCR, UNICEF, and WFP helped to rehabilitate schools, replenish food stocks and provide basic shelter to thousands of refugees whose homes had been destroyed. PRM-supported UNHCR programming included a renewed focus on livelihoods, putting Sahrawi refugees on the path to self-sufficiency.

- Libya's civil war has displaced more than 300,000 Libyans and placed hundreds of thousands of vulnerable migrants in grave danger. Nearly 10,000 migrants have been detained in horrific conditions. PRM's contributions to ICRC and UNHCR supported critical protection and assistance programming to Libyan IDPs as well as refugees and migrants, including detention monitoring.
- When violence broke out in Mozambique between the Renamo and Frelimo factions, sending over 10,000 refugees into Malawi, PRM used MRA emergency funds to respond to UNHCR's appeal, providing life-saving aid for the refugees who threatened to overwhelm lightly populated border villages.



Recently arrived South Sudanese refugees in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement in Uganda. January 2017.

FY 2017 Objectives

- Successfully address protection challenges, including forcible returns of Nigerian refugees and IDPs, recruitment of refugees into fighting forces in the Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa, pressure to join extremist groups, attacks on refugees and IDPs by armed groups in Central Africa and the Sahel, gender-based violence and sexual exploitation, and unwarranted detention of refugees in places such as Libya.
- Improve and expand programming to prevent and respond to gender-based violence for refugee and IDP populations in Africa, both in new emergencies and protracted situations; engage directly with refugee hosting governments to improve legal frameworks and provision of social services and law enforcement to reduce the risk of gender-based violence.
- Respond quickly to new refugee emergencies that arise (such as the new violence in the DRC's Kasai region that has sent refugees into Angola).
- Promote refugee self-reliance by aligning development resources in humanitarian settings through the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework and by supporting innovative international financing models through the World Bank, particularly in the pilot areas of Tanzania, Uganda, Somalia, Ethiopia, and Djibouti.

- Encourage and support refugee-hosting governments, particularly Cameroon, Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia, to expand access to educational and employment opportunities to which they committed at the Leaders' Summit on refugees in September 2016.
- Focus international attention on addressing famine/famine-like conditions which are exacerbating existing humanitarian crises in Nigeria, Somalia, and South Sudan.
- Seek to expand the international donor response and generate increased global resources to save lives and mitigate human suffering.
- Support strategies to expand humanitarian assistance into areas previously inaccessible.
- Improve humanitarian coordination and response through consistent engagement and robust monitoring of international partners' planning and activities through frontline, field-based oversight by PRM refugee coordinators and through extensive review of monitoring reports.
- Support voluntary return and reintegration of refugees at the appropriate time, while working to ensure continued asylum where necessary, particularly with regard to returns to Somalia. Support the governments of the Central African Republic and Côte d'Ivoire in fostering an environment conducive for, and continuing to support, the return and reintegration of refugees in line with international humanitarian principles; engage diplomatically in partnership with UNHCR to support the voluntary return of Chadian refugees from Darfur and Darfuri refugees from Chad.
- Maintain diplomatic engagement to address legal and administrative barriers to addressing statelessness as a way to reduce those populations' vulnerability, particularly in Southern Africa, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, and Sudan.
- Support the redesign of the Western Sahara Confidence Building Measures (CBM) program with a youth focus.
- In Egypt and South Africa, improve urban refugees' access to protection and assistance through increased contact by humanitarian organizations; PRM engagement with the authorities on policies and procedures governing entry, status determination, and residence of refugees; and gap-filling programming.
- Establish alternatives to detention for migrants in Libya, while improving protection and assistance for migrants in detention and in the country writ large. In cooperation with USAID and State/MEPI colleagues, help provide humanitarian aid for conflict victims in Libya.

Assistance Programs in East Asia

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Enduring	78,700	*	57,600	-21,100

FY 2018 Request

The FY 2018 MRA enduring request will enable humanitarian partners to save lives and alleviate suffering in the East Asia region by funding programs that protect and assist refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, stateless persons, and victims of conflict. These include Burma’s Rohingya and other displaced populations in Kachin and Shan states who continue to face persecution and violence, highly vulnerable North Koreans outside the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Uighurs throughout the region, and the growing number of urban refugees and asylum seekers in detention in Thailand and Malaysia. Burmese remain the single largest IDP, refugee, and asylum seeker group in East Asia. Funds will help UNHCR and ICRC improve humanitarian conditions for Burmese, including Rohingya, and other vulnerable ethnic minorities within Burma. Continued support will also enable partners working in Bangladesh, Malaysia, and along the Thailand-Burma border to meet the basic humanitarian needs of refugees and asylum seekers until conditions within Burma allow for their large-scale safe, voluntary, and sustainable return.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- U.S. diplomatic engagement and MRA funding to humanitarian partners helped protect Rohingya refugees and asylum seekers residing in neighboring countries from *refoulement*, promoted long-term cooperation among countries in the region to meet the needs of the Rohingya population, and addressed the root causes of conflict and persecution in Burma’s Rakhine State. PRM-supported projects successfully promoted the Royal Thai Government’s and neighboring states’ incorporation of temporary stay agreements and voluntary return practices, as well as solutions to displacement, including alternatives to detention.
- With PRM support, and in coordination with other donor governments, UNHCR and NGOs in Thailand provided protection and basic life-saving assistance to 104,000 Burmese refugees in nine official camps on the Thailand-Burma border. PRM remains the largest donor in these camps, providing funding to UNHCR as well as over \$16 million in support to NGOs for health care services, nutritional assistance, vocational training, women’s protection, GBV and psychosocial care, water, sanitation, and mine risk education. In addition, PRM-supported programs made progress on nutritional assistance through the pilot of a Food Card System program in two camps.
- With PRM support, UNHCR led continuing preparations for Burmese refugees’ voluntary return to Burma from Thailand. In October 2016, UNHCR and its operational partners supported the Burmese and Thai governments to facilitate the first voluntary return of 71 refugees in over 30 years. UNHCR’s efforts led to the Royal Thai Government (RTG)’s commitment to enhance refugees’ skills development for their sustainable return and increased cross-border coordination among humanitarian organizations. UNHCR’s close cooperation with the RTG, NGO partners, and stateless communities has resulted in the granting of nationality to more than 18,000 individuals over the last three years.
- Through NGO partners and leveraging local Thai capacities, PRM directly supported the provision of protection and basic life-saving assistance to approximately 8,000 refugees and asylum seekers in Bangkok. Extended U.S. advocacy helped produce a commitment by the RTG to develop its own screening and registration mechanism for urban asylum seekers and refugees, and adopt legislation to prohibit *refoulement*.

- In Malaysia, PRM worked to close critical gaps in humanitarian assistance for over 150,000 registered urban refugees and asylum seekers. To this end, PRM funded three NGOs to meet needs in primary healthcare and mental health, psychosocial, and GBV prevention and response assistance to urban refugees and asylum seekers in Kuala Lumpur and the surrounding areas. In addition, PRM supported UNHCR's new local health insurance policy for refugees and asylum-seekers.
- PRM also met critical humanitarian gaps in Jakarta, Indonesia by funding an NGO partner to expand and strengthen protection and care for unaccompanied and separated refugee children, including providing alternatives to detention.
- In Bangladesh, PRM-provided humanitarian assistance met critical needs of registered Rohingya refugees, undocumented Rohingya, and local host Bangladeshi populations as part of the Bangladeshi government's national Rohingya Strategy. In support of this strategy, PRM provided funding to IOM and NGO partners to improve access to water and sanitation, assist people with disabilities, and promote proper nutrition among refugee and host communities.



The pilot Food Card System program funded by PRM has increased the range of food commodities from six in the food basket to over 13 available through vendors, giving Burmese refugee households more options to diversify their diet. Nu Po Refugee Camp, Thailand-Burma Border. February 2017.

FY 2017 Objectives

- Provide life-saving humanitarian assistance to refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons (IDPs) throughout the region, with a focus on Rohingya, Burmese Chin, Uighurs, Chinese dissidents, and North Koreans.
- Increase senior-level humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy to urge Burma and affected governments in the region to address the root causes of displacement and develop durable solutions for the stateless

Rohingya and other displaced Burmese.

- Sustain service provision and work to enhance protection for urban refugees and asylum seekers in Malaysia and Thailand. Ensure that protection and life-saving assistance is provided to roughly 100,000 Burmese refugees and asylum seekers in the nine camps on the Thailand-Burma border while PRM partners continue to facilitate voluntary returns.
- Continue to support protection and humanitarian needs of the documented and undocumented Rohingya in Bangladesh, including by assisting the government to meet its commitments pledged at the Leaders' Summit on Refugees.
- Protect Rohingya residing in neighboring countries from *refoulement* and coordinate with ASEAN, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and the Bali Process to continue developing platforms for international cooperation to address the plight of the Rohingya throughout the region.
- Press the Burmese government to reintegrate the Rohingya and Rakhine communities, to include providing access to education and livelihoods opportunities, and to discourage settlements that would institutionalize segregation.
- Continue to urge the government of Malaysia to extend work authorization to registered refugees, improve access to education and healthcare, and protect refugees from arbitrary detention, exploitation, and vulnerability to extortion from local authorities.
- Since the migrant crisis of May 2015 in the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea involving vulnerable Rohingya and Bangladeshis, international interventions led to a significant decrease in the number of persons taking to the seas. Despite the growing momentum to address these issues within ASEAN, we will continue to urge governments in the region to strengthen search and rescue operations at sea, to harmonize disembarkation and reception conditions, and to offer temporary protection to people in need of international protection while durable solutions are sought.

Assistance Programs in Europe

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Overseas Contingency Operations	85,350	*	46,400	-38,950

FY 2018 Request

The FY 2018 MRA-OCO request will help alleviate human suffering in the region including by helping conflict victims and the displaced in Ukraine, Georgia, and the Balkans. Rising violence in Eastern Ukraine has driven nearly 1.9 million people from their homes and left 3.8 million in need of assistance inside the country and across the region. Programs will help internally displaced persons and other conflict victims get access to emergency assistance, social services, shelter, livelihoods, and psychosocial programs to foster self-sufficiency. This request will also aid vulnerable IDPs in Georgia who are unable to return to the occupied regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. Funding within the Europe line will also support the international community's response to the large numbers of refugees from the Middle-East, South Asia, and Africa including 50,000 refugees and vulnerable migrants stranded in Greece and Serbia.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- PRM contributions to its international organization partners provided critical assistance to IDPs and conflict victims in eastern Ukraine, particularly along the “line of contact.” UNHCR provided protection and assistance for IDPs, asylum seekers, and stateless persons, and advocated for humanitarian access, freedom of movement for IDPs, registration, documentation, housing, and other protection needs. ICRC repaired critical water supply infrastructure for over 4 million residents of Donetsk and Luhansk damaged by conflict, facilitated access to medical care, restored family links, and conducted humanitarian visits to people held in Ukrainian prisons as well as places of detention in separatist-controlled Donetsk. IOM supplied winterization and hygiene kits to affected households on both sides of the line of conflict as well as livelihood and housing aid, assisting over 132,000 IDPs and other people in need. UNFPA fielded 26 mobile medical teams that provided psycho-social support to survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), trained medical personnel in clinical management of rape, and sensitized police on GBV prevention and response.
- In 2016, PRM continued to fill gaps in Europe's humanitarian response to its refugee and migration crisis via support for UNHCR, ICRC, and other international organizations. European countries experienced challenges as former transit countries became destination countries, despite the signing of an agreement between the EU and Turkey and subsequent drop in the number of arrivals to Greece. In 2016, PRM partners in Greece distributed 1.5 million blankets, mattresses, heaters, and other core relief items. They also supported improvements at 55 refugee sites, installed 77 water and toilet facilities, and distributed 50 prefabricated education units. Our partners supported 11 community centers, established 700 shelter places for unaccompanied minors, and two shelters for LGBT refugees. In addition, PRM partners sheltered over 23,000 refugees and migrants in apartments and hotels, provided legal advice, transferred refugees from islands to the mainland, pre-registered 28,000 asylum seekers, and supported deployments of humanitarian staff to state institutions. Finally, PRM partners helped strengthen local capacity to respond to the crisis, including via trainings on gender-based violence prevention and response and dead body management, among other subjects.
- PRM assisted Southeastern European States to improve and coordinate their planning and response capacities to the 2015-2016 refugee/migration crisis. PRM supported IOM programming across the Western Balkans States that focused on strengthening humane border management and the identification of vulnerable migrants and refugees. MRA funds also supported local and international NGOs to improve migrant transit infrastructure, support long-

term planning to address stranded migrant children's education needs, and help develop contingency plans to prepare for future arrivals. These efforts directly improved living conditions for thousands of refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants.

- MRA funding for NGO programs in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia assisted people displaced by conflicts in the Balkans with livelihoods opportunities to foster greater self-reliance and helped build the capacity of local governments to provide legal services to displaced persons.
- To help alleviate overcrowded facilities in Greece and Italy PRM's diplomatic approach to European partners emphasized the importance of honoring EU commitments to relocate and resettle refugees throughout the EU and deploy EU experts to help Greece and Italy process asylum claims. In response to European requests, PRM worked with the Department's Bureaus of European and Eurasian Affairs and Education and Cultural Affairs to exchange experiences on refugee resettlement and integration. This was accomplished through international visitors programs as well as the launch of a new program to share U.S. experience in refugee resettlement and integration with local-level practitioners and policy makers in eleven European states faced with developing new or expanding existing resettlement and integration programs.



A PRM-funded IOM cash distribution to IDPs and conflict victims close to the contact line in Girske, Luhansk region, Ukraine. March 2017. Photo by IOM.

- PRM promoted durable solutions for vulnerable displaced persons and refugees in the Caucasus region through regular engagement in the Geneva International Discussions on Georgia, and diplomatic efforts throughout the region. With MRA funds, UNHCR supported the efforts of the governments of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan to improve protection of refugees and other displaced people in line with international standards, while coordinating its approach with the development efforts of other UN agencies. U.S. contributions to ICRC supported its five-year plan to reduce the number of missing persons while building forensic capacity in the region. PRM-supported NGO programs sought to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, increase access to health care and livelihoods, and build confidence to improve cross-boundary relations among conflict-affected communities. PRM also continued to press for full access to Abkhazia and South Ossetia for the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in order to address ongoing humanitarian and human rights concerns in the region.

FY 2017 Objectives

- Ensure that humanitarian assistance programs address the needs of the most vulnerable IDPs in Ukraine, including the disabled, the elderly, women and children. Promote coordination and integration of IDP programming among relief, recovery, and development agencies.
- Encourage the government of Ukraine to improve the health, education, and social programming and program delivery for IDPs in government-controlled areas and, through humanitarian partners, in the non-government-controlled areas. Foster greater coherence between relief and development programs, including by bolstering

the capability of the government of Ukraine to lead and coordinate humanitarian responses to IDP needs. Press the government of Ukraine to pass legislation to address statelessness.

- Provide humanitarian assistance to refugees and vulnerable migrants in Europe in coordination with relevant USG entities including USAID and the Department of Defense. Continue to fill gaps in humanitarian assistance, through contributions to international organizations and NGOs in Turkey and the Balkans. Strengthen prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV) both through direct PRM programming and by greater coordination and collaboration with European partners.
- Work with European partners to promote sustainable integration of refugees and migrants in European countries. Advocate with EU Member States to increase legal avenues for migration to Europe and to increase access to humanitarian aid and livelihood opportunities in countries of first asylum. Urge protection-sensitive border management thorough screenings, creation of additional reception places, respect for humanitarian principles when employing military capabilities in support of migration management efforts, and through bolstered regional coordination and information sharing on migrant flows and trends.
- Through contributions to IOM, help build the capacity of migration, police and judicial officials in Western Balkans countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Serbia, and Montenegro) to identify smugglers and to meet the needs of vulnerable migrants, including unaccompanied children and victims of trafficking.
- Enhance sustainable livelihood opportunities and protection for vulnerable refugee and migrant communities in Tajikistan through NGO partners, and support UNHCR's efforts to encourage Central Asian governments to undertake measures to prevent and reduce statelessness and maintain national asylum mechanisms and reception capacity.
- Ensure complementarity of PRM programming with government and development actors to meet the needs of displaced populations in protracted situations in the Caucasus.

Assistance Programs in the Near East

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Overseas Contingency Operations	1,302,488	*	1,195,200	-107,288

FY 2018 Request

The FY 2018 MRA-OCO request will help fund UNHCR, ICRC, and UNRWA activities throughout the Near East region, supporting PRM's primary goal of providing humanitarian assistance that saves lives and eases suffering. It will fund protection and assistance programs for Iraqi refugees, conflict victims, and displaced persons inside Iraq, including those affected by the D-ISIS operations in Iraq. It will also support essential humanitarian programs run by international organization and NGO partners in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Turkey to meet Iraqi refugees' basic needs. The UN estimates that 11 million Iraqis will need assistance in Iraq in 2017, with approximately three million internally displaced. The request anticipates sustained needs of vulnerable Iraqis, particularly IDPs, due to ongoing conflict and displacement.

The conflict in Syria has left more than 400,000 dead and 13.5 million in need of humanitarian assistance. Roughly 6.3 million Syrians are displaced inside the country and more than five million are refugees. The FY 2018 request anticipates ongoing and significant humanitarian needs as millions of Syrian refugees remain in neighboring states or try to reach onward locations. Millions of IDPs and conflict victims will continue to lack regular access to food, health care, clean water, sanitation, and adequate shelter; their situation is likely to deteriorate further. Funding will continue to help address those in need (despite the Syrian regime's denial of humanitarian assistance). The crisis presents a clear threat to regional stability and security as well as the national security interests of the United States and our refugee-hosting allies in the region. Funding will help address the effects of this protracted emergency, including the pressing need to educate displaced children, provide psychological counseling, support regional efforts to provide legal employment opportunities to refugees, and aid communities that host those who are displaced as their resources dwindle and local infrastructure becomes overwhelmed.

The FY 2018 request includes support to UNRWA, which provides education, health care, relief and social services, and emergency assistance to approximately 5.3 million Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and the West Bank and Gaza. Funding to UNRWA is essential to the organization, which remains an important counterweight to extremism and a force for stability in the region. Funding will support UNRWA's Program Budget, the Emergency Appeal for Gaza and the West Bank, and UNRWA's response to the Syria crisis.

The FY 2018 request also includes support for approximately two million Yemeni IDPs and millions of conflict victims affected by the worsening conflict in Yemen. This aid will focus primarily on providing shelter, food and water, medical care, and protection, primarily through UNHCR and ICRC, as well as other international organizations.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- Inside Syria, MRA funds supported ICRC and its partner the Syrian Arab Red Crescent Society (SARC) in providing 15 million people with water, sanitation, and habitat projects. Over 10 million people supplemented their daily diet with ICRC food parcels or with hot meals from collective kitchens or freshly baked bread packs, and over 2.1 million people eased their living conditions using ICRC hygiene items and other household essentials (like mattresses, blankets and cooking materials), including 29,000 school kits, and over 30,000 families received winter

clothing.

- In addition, U.S. contributions to UNHCR supported efforts to help the most vulnerable Syrian refugees with cash for medicine and food, stoves and fuel for heating, insulation for tents, thermal blankets, and winter clothing. Inside Syria, UNHCR protected and assisted internally displaced Syrians, including by providing core relief items such as sleeping mats, kitchen sets, and diapers to over 4 million IDPs, shelter assistance for over 90,000 IDPs, and delivering supplies to prepare for winter to over one million IDPs.
- U.S. diplomacy with the Government of Lebanon and UNHCR addressed key challenges refugees face in maintaining legal residency. Lebanon recently waived residency fees and simplified document requirements for registered Syrian refugees. In Turkey, U.S. funding for catch-up classes and school transportation helped refugee student enrollment surpass 490,000, or 60% of school-aged refugee children.
- In Jordan, U.S. officials successfully advocated for the admission of 20,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees stranded at the Jordan-Syria border (the Berm) and, with international partners, pressed for the provision of humanitarian aid to the remaining stranded population. U.S. diplomacy also helped expand access for Syrian refugees to work permits available under the Jordan Compact.
- PRM encouraged governments in the region to work in close consultation with the international community and international financial institutions to ensure that displaced populations are included in community-based development projects. With PRM and broader USG advocacy, the World Bank launched the Middle East and North Africa Concessional Financing Facility in April 2016 to provide a platform for support to Jordan and Lebanon.
- In Iraq, U.S. contributions to UNHCR and ICRC, among other organizations, helped prepare civilians inside Mosul city to meet the needs of those displaced by Defeating-ISIS military operations. UNHCR's Iraq operations focused on shelter and non-food items, protection, and camp management for IDPs, as well as assistance to Syrian refugees. PRM funding for UNICEF provided education in temporary learning spaces for nearly 52,000 Iraqi children – many of whom were displaced as a result of the Mosul campaign. UNICEF also trained 3,212 teachers and other education personnel on education in emergencies and psychosocial support, and provided education materials and teaching supplies for nearly 360,000 children in Iraq.
- U.S. contributions to IOM supported its Displacement Tracking Matrix, which has become the standard for tracking IDPs in Iraq and has begun to be used in other contexts, such as Yemen. PRM continued its support for IOM's



Displaced Iraqi children frolic in spray from the U.S. Embassy Baghdad fire truck during "IDP Kids Day." October 20, 2016

Community Revitalization Program, which works with communities to rebuild livelihoods, rehabilitate damaged infrastructure, and improve social cohesion among IDPs and host community members. MRA funding for UNFPA supported 88 women's centers in northern and central Iraq that provided emergency psychosocial support to over 22,000 girls and 31,000 women survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), including case management and referrals to medical and other services.

- Through PRM, the U.S. government was the largest single donor to UNRWA in 2016, providing nearly \$360 million for UNRWA's education, health, and emergency relief programs. U.S. diplomatic and financial support were essential in helping the Agency avoid a suspension of UNRWA's education and health operations in 2016, which support some 5.3 million eligible Palestinian refugees. In particular, this includes basic and preparatory education for some 500,000 refugee students who receive U.S.-funded lessons promoting the importance of human rights, tolerance, and non-violent conflict resolution. In Syria, UNRWA's relief assistance reached more than 412,000 refugees, and UNRWA distributed nearly 610,000 food parcels throughout the course of the year, some of which reached the 10 percent of the Palestinian refugee population in besieged or hard-to-reach areas. U.S.-supported food assistance in Gaza helped feed over 960,000 refugees.
- In FY 2016, PRM contributed nearly \$49 million toward the Yemen response in the region, including contributions to UNHCR, ICRC, and IOM. ICRC supported 80 health facilities, as well as six hospitals; provided an estimated 3.3 million people with access to clean water and improved sanitation facilities; and provided approximately 730,000 people with emergency relief supplies, including blankets, food, and essential household items. UNHCR continued its support for IDPs through protection, emergency shelter, provision of non-food items, and camp management; in addition to its multi-sectoral support for Somali refugees and other migrants living in Yemen.
- PRM advocated for a "one refugee" policy throughout the region, encouraging humanitarian partners to ensure an equitable response to all refugee (and displaced) populations in need, regardless of nationality.

FY 2017 Objectives

- Improve humanitarian access in Syria and maintain protection in neighboring countries for those fleeing the conflict. Continue to prioritize delivery of life-saving aid to the stranded refugee population at the Syrian-Jordanian border (barm) and advocate for their admission into Jordan.
- Sustain protection and assistance for Iraqi IDPs and refugees through regular dialogue and advocacy with host governments and IO and NGO partners, as well as through targeted NGO assistance and support for UNHCR and ICRC.
- Maintain humanitarian support for Palestinian refugees across the region by continuing financial and diplomatic support for UNRWA, which remains a critical source of stability and a counterweight to extremism.
- Improve humanitarian access and provide protection and assistance to displaced and conflict-affected Yemenis, as well as African refugees and migrants living in Yemen, through support to international organizations and diplomacy with parties to the conflict and other donors.
- Expand the donor base and advocate for funding to UN appeals, including by encouraging increased financial support from the private sector and non-traditional government donors.
- Coordinate humanitarian assistance with development efforts – for example, by the World Bank and UN agencies – to strengthen the resilience of refugees and their host communities, and to improve refugees' self-reliance through access to education and legal employment.

Assistance Programs in South Asia

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Overseas Contingency Operations	68,360	*	94,400	26,040

FY 2018 Request

Hosting more than 3.3 million refugees and IDPs and facing increasing violence and insecurity, Afghanistan and Pakistan remain top foreign policy priorities. The FY 2018 MRA-OCO request includes funding to meet the basic needs of refugees, returnees, and IDPs from both countries. This assistance also helps build the Afghan government's local and national capacity to better integrate displaced populations. PRM assistance to these vulnerable groups helps enable the Government of Afghanistan to work toward successfully integrating IDPs and returnees to ensure that all Afghans participate in the development of a peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan.

Humanitarian protection and assistance programs in South Asia also address the needs of Tibetan and Bhutanese refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless populations in Nepal; Tibetan and Sri Lankan refugees in India; returning refugees and internally displaced persons in Sri Lanka; and urban refugees and asylum seekers in all three countries. The FY 2018 request will allow partners to continue to meet the basic needs of the Tibetan communities in Nepal and India, including protection and reception services for those transiting across Nepal to India. Partners will also work to improve humanitarian conditions for the growing urban refugee population in India as well as urban refugees and asylum seekers in Sri Lanka whose precarious status makes them vulnerable to deportation and potential *refoulement*.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- In FY 2016, PRM funding supported the work of UNHCR, ICRC, IOM, and NGOs to provide water and sanitation services; livelihoods training; GBV awareness and referral services; protection and legal aid for women and children; and psychosocial response and care to Afghan refugees and IDPs.
- UNHCR and its partners provided legal assistance to 31,430 persons of concern in Pakistan. This included services to registered Afghan refugees who had been arrested and/or detained. In the majority of cases, UNHCR and its partners managed to obtain the release of the arrested Afghan refugees before the official lodging of charges against them which resulted in their release from detention within 24 hours.
- UNHCR facilitated the voluntary return of over 370,000 Afghan refugees from Pakistan to Afghanistan. To meet the demand of the significant increase in returns in 2016, UNHCR appealed for additional funds to cover the extraordinary costs to which PRM responded with a contribution of \$16.1 million. In addition to a repatriation grant of \$400/person to help meet the returnees' immediate needs, UNHCR also provided protection monitoring during the return process, referring those in need of additional assistance to partners, other IOs, and government services as appropriate.
- In Pakistan, MRA support to UNHCR and ICRC helped these agencies assist Pakistani IDPs affected by conflict and Pakistani refugees in Afghanistan. UNHCR has assessed the voluntariness of IDP's returns. For those who remain displaced, UNHCR addresses protection concerns through mobile protection teams and grievance desks. The ICRC in Pakistan supported rehabilitation services for the disabled and international humanitarian law instruction among the Pakistani armed forces, while working with the Pakistan Red Crescent Society to provide primary health care and family-links services for IDPs and conflict victims. PRM also provided \$3 million to

UNHCR to improve the capacity of public schools to enroll at least 29,000 refugee students in line with Pakistan's pledge at the Leaders' Summit on refugees.

- In 2016 PRM also funded livelihoods, health, education, water/sanitation, and local NGO capacity-building activities for Tibetan refugees in India and Nepal and supported shelter repair and reconstruction benefitting Tibetan refugees in Nepal who were affected by Nepal's 2015 earthquake.
- In India, with U.S. contributions, UNHCR assisted more than 33,000 urban refugees, primarily from Burma and Afghanistan, and facilitated the voluntary return of Sri Lankan and Afghan refugees.
- In Sri Lanka, UNHCR assisted more than 600 urban refugees and more than 550 asylum seekers, primarily from Pakistan, Burma, and Afghanistan. UNHCR successfully surged staff in 2016 in order to reduce a backlog of refugee status determinations. PRM funded protection, water and sanitation, and livelihoods activities for Sri Lankan refugees, returnees, and internally displaced persons.

FY 2017 Objectives

- Improve the living conditions and ease suffering of the most vulnerable Afghan returnees and enable the Government of Afghanistan to work toward successfully integrating IDPs and returnees into local communities, and ensuring that all Afghans participate in the development of a peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan.
- Support international and local Pakistani organizations that provide assistance to the most vulnerable Afghan refugees to promote self-reliance and prepare refugees for eventual voluntary repatriation.
- Through U.S. diplomacy and international advocacy, ensure the protection of IDPs in Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- Promote relief and development coherence by focusing on promoting Afghan refugee inclusion in USAID development programs in Afghanistan by reviewing systemic barriers such as Afghan documentation requirements to enable returnees to better access services, and the geographic selection of aid projects to ensure that refugees are included in USAID programs.
- Improve protection and assistance for urban asylum seekers and refugees in South Asia.
- Contribute to progress in promoting self-reliance in protracted refugee situations, particularly for Tibetan and Bhutanese refugees.
- Ensure a smooth transfer of humanitarian assistance programs to other donors and local organizations and support durable solutions for Sri Lankan IDPs, returnees, and refugees.



Tibetan refugees in Nepal spin wool to use for the production of carpets and clothing, a primary source of income for many Tibetans living in settlements throughout Nepal and India. November 2016.

Assistance Programs in the Western Hemisphere

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Enduring	65,650	*	51,300	-14,350

FY 2018 Request

Decades of ongoing violence in Colombia has displaced more than 7.2 million people, approximately 15 percent of Colombia's population. The FY 2018 MRA enduring request supports protection and assistance for newly displaced Colombians (IDPs) inside Colombia and for the more than 340,000 Colombian asylum seekers and refugees in Ecuador, Venezuela, and Panama. Although the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) signed a peace agreement in November 2016, violence continues as other armed actors fight for territory and resources previously controlled by the FARC. The FY 2018 request recognizes the significant resources the Colombian government is devoting to the reintegration of IDPs and focuses on supporting Colombian asylum-seekers and refugees in neighboring countries and increasing Colombian government local capacity to better integrate IDPs.

In Mexico and Central America, funding will support UNHCR, ICRC, and IOM efforts to build capacity of government officials, institutions, and civil society to identify, screen, protect, and assist vulnerable migrants and asylum seekers, including unaccompanied minors from the Northern Triangle of Central America. In the Dominican Republic, programs support the registration process to regularize vulnerable migrants and address statelessness. In Cuba, resources enable the State Department to support the Migrant Operations Center at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. Under Executive Order 13276, the State Department is responsible for the care of migrants interdicted at sea, determined to be in need of protection, while they await third country resettlement.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- PRM programs successfully delivered immediate humanitarian aid to newly displaced people in Colombia and Colombian refugees, Ecuador, Panama, Costa Rica and Venezuela. Over 90 percent of new victims of forced displacement received 2,100 Kcal/day in food assistance for 30 days. PRM partners delivered food and non-food kits to over 2,700 displaced persons in compliance with Sphere standards.
- Through its contributions to UNHCR, PRM supported the Transitional Solutions Initiative (TSI), a joint UNHCR/UNDP program in Colombia that provided legal titles to land, access to services and other durable solutions for 50,000 IDPs (10,000 families) living in mostly urban locations in 17 communities in 10 departments across the country. The program worked to legalize informal urban settlements, which in turn allowed those communities to access municipal services. Through TSI UNHCR helped secure individual titles to land, provide access public services, build and renovate homes, schools, and health care facilities, and promote activities that generated income, improved access to food, and offered community training and legal advice.
- With PRM funding, humanitarian NGOs helped increase the capacity of municipal governments in Colombia to implement the Victims' Law by delivering immediate humanitarian aid to IDPs, providing logistical support, and helping local authorities plan their budgets for victims' services, and coordinate with other local institutions.
- U.S. diplomacy helped raise the profile of Colombian refugee issues in Ecuador, resulting in an agreement between the government of Ecuador and UNHCR to develop refugee ID cards that will allow refugees to integrate into Ecuadoran society more easily.

- U.S. contributions to UNHCR supported the secondment of a team of 15 lawyers to the Costa Rican ministry that processes refugee claims to help manage an unexpected surge in asylum seekers from Venezuela and the Northern Triangle region of Central America, and is expected to reduce backlogs in Costa Rica's refugee registration.
- In Mexico, asylum applications increased 156 percent in 2016 compared to 2015 and are projected to double in 2017. With U.S. support, UNHCR assisted Mexico's Refugee Assistance Commission to add 29 new staff—including 14 seconded staff to improve processing of asylum cases—and allowed the Commission open offices in Tenosique and Villahermosa.
- PRM continued to advocate for protection throughout the Caribbean. In The Bahamas, UNHCR, with strong U.S. support, regained regular access for refugee screening in the Carmichael Detention Center. In the Dominican Republic, UNHCR continued to work with the Government of the Dominican Republic to create a solution for remaining undocumented persons, mainly of Haitian descent. Following years of U.S. diplomacy and UNHCR advocacy, Haiti acceded to the 1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons and to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.
- PRM participated in the U.S. Army South and U.S. Southern Command 2017 Integrated Advance (IA-17) exercise, providing humanitarian guidance and training in the event of mass migration in the Caribbean. IA-17 was a full-scale exercise and a part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Exercise Program.



A single IDP mother and her three daughters at their home in Guapi, Colombia, where they received services funded by PRM. March 2017.

FY 2017 Objectives

- Fill gaps in the provision of humanitarian assistance for Colombian IDPs and continue to work with local governments to strengthen their capacity to implement Colombia's Victims and Land Restitution Law. Support post-conflict planning, durable solutions, and refugee repatriation and reintegration while continuing to meet the needs of vulnerable people displaced by any continued violence.
- Continue to work with UNHCR and NGO partners in refugee-hosting countries to improve access to asylum, strengthen protection systems, and increase access to education and livelihood activities for refugees and asylum seekers. Evaluate refugee integration needs, identify gaps in protection and assistance, and foster durable solutions for vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers.
- Leverage existing frameworks and forums in coordinating with other donors and relevant U.S. agencies to ensure that Central American governments build capacity to better manage migration, provide asylum, and meet their international commitments.
- Continue efforts to ensure successful implementation of the Government of the Dominican Republic's legislation for a path to citizenship for Dominicans of Haitian descent.

Protection Priorities

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Enduring	245,605	*	113,506	-132,099
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Overseas Contingency Operations	57,915	*	94,900	36,985

FY 2018 Request

The FY 2018 MRA enduring request of \$113.5 million and the MRA-OCO request of \$94.9 million support the core capabilities of key humanitarian partners to protect and assist refugees, internally displaced persons, stateless populations, and vulnerable migrants. Funds support the global operations of UNHCR and ICRC headquarters costs, providing these critical responders with the flexibility to act quickly and effectively when crises erupt, maintain staffing, monitor programs in increasingly insecure environments, and enhance accountability through results-based management reforms. The request includes core funding for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, which leads the mobilization and organization of effective humanitarian action, in partnership with national and international actors, in order to alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies. This request also supports global humanitarian and U.S. government priorities, such as increasing the capacity of multilateral and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners to address gender-based violence; strengthening the self-reliance of refugees and IDPs; applying best practices in collecting, analyzing, and using beneficiary feedback to demonstrate accountability to the populations PRM assists; and using independent evaluations to build the evidence base for effective humanitarian programming and diplomacy. Finally, by setting aside an unallocated portion of funds through the Emergency Response Fund (ERF), the request also makes it possible for the Department to rely on the MRA account to respond to unanticipated humanitarian emergencies as they arise.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- Despite simultaneous, large-scale emergencies, and difficult, often dangerous operating environments, PRM-supported IOs and NGOs provided protection and life-sustaining humanitarian aid where it was needed most. To meet emergency requirements, PRM made effective use of the emergency response fund resources within Protection Priorities. In FY 2016, PRM provided over \$57 million to help meet the urgent and unanticipated needs of refugees, IDPs and conflict victims from South Sudan, Yemen, Libya, Somalia, Iraq, Burundi, the Lake Chad region, Afghanistan, the Northern Triangle of Central America, and other emergencies, including the European refugee/migration crisis.
- In FY 2016, PRM's targeted GBV funding within Protection Priorities increased to nearly \$30 million, reflecting PRM's continuing commitment to expanding these programs, and included nearly \$12 million in support of the *Safe from the Start* initiative, a joint effort by PRM and USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance to address gender-based violence from the earliest phases of a humanitarian emergency.
- In FY 2016, with PRM leadership, the UN Secretary-General and seven Member States co-hosted the Leaders' Summit on Refugees at which 17 Member States with significant refugee populations pledged to enact policy changes that will allow one million more refugee children to attend school. In support of this goal PRM provided nearly \$37 million to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for education programs in these countries to help capitalize on these policy reforms. Additionally PRM and USAID provided financial and technical assistance to establish "Education Cannot Wait", the world's first fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises. The United States combined both humanitarian and development assistance to pledge \$21 million (of which \$10 million was from the MRA account) to support the establishment of Education Cannot Wait's structure,

incentivize other donors, and support initial investments, demonstrating our commitment to bridge the gap between emergency and longer term needs.

- The United States led a core group of governments to introduce a Human Rights Council resolution on “The Right to a Nationality: Women’s Nationality Rights in Law and in Practice” in July 2016 that passed by resounding consensus with 107 co-sponsors. With PRM support, the Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights held a workshop in Madagascar with key stakeholders that resulted in the passage of a new law granting women equal rights to confer citizenship on their children. UNHCR reported significant progress in reducing statelessness as thousands of stateless individuals in Central Asia, Côte d’Ivoire, Thailand, and other countries acquired a nationality or had their nationality confirmed.
- The U.S. government funded 20 American Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) in key UNHCR locations around the world. This program is a valuable tool to provide highly visible U.S. support for key operations while also promoting the hiring of U.S. citizens by UNHCR. JPOs gain working experience in the fields of protection, humanitarian assistance in emergencies and other areas such as technical support services and are an invaluable asset for UNHCR. For example, in 2015-2016, American JPOs in Kenya, Liberia, and Senegal helped UNHCR respond to outflows of refugees from South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria, and the Central African Republic. An American JPO in Ecuador helped strengthen refugee resiliency and durable solutions by supporting livelihoods programming along the Colombian border and a JPO in Bangladesh worked to improve the services available to Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazaar.

FY 2017 Objectives

- Ensure rapid response to emerging humanitarian crises.
- Strengthen relief and development coherence and seek to improve refugees’ and IDPs’ self-reliance through access to legal employment, education, and other livelihoods strategies.
- Strengthen humanitarian response to address the unique needs of children and youth, including birth registration, child protection and case management, support for unaccompanied minors, access to education, and youth empowerment.
- Improve the humanitarian community’s response to gender-based violence at the outset of an emergency through programming that protects and empowers conflict-affected women and girls.



A PRM-funded women's empowerment project in Nakivale Refugee Settlement in southwest Uganda encourages the use of greenhouses and drip irrigation to produce vegetable crops. The objective of the program is to train and prepare refugee women to create and maintain their own kitchen gardens. July 2015.

- Improve protection of internally displaced persons, particularly by strengthening UNHCR's leadership of the protection cluster in conflict-related displacement situations.
- Address the needs of particularly vulnerable refugees, including persons living with disabilities and unaccompanied youth or female-headed households, including by providing services and engaging host governments to improve the overall protection environment.
- Strengthen global efforts to prevent and reduce statelessness, particularly through diplomatic and financial support to UNHCR's Global Campaign to End Statelessness by 2024, and by promoting women's equal right to nationality.
- Continue to improve the capacity for evidence-based decision making within the State Department and its international partners, thereby strengthening accountability to American taxpayers and maximizing the positive impact of humanitarian programs for beneficiaries.

Migration

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Enduring	33,406	*	30,335	-3,071

FY 2018 Request

The FY 2018 MRA enduring request supports the U.S. government objectives of protecting and assisting asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants, advancing regular, orderly and humane migration policies, enhancing security and stability, and promoting respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants. Funds support national and regional efforts to build the capacity of governments to develop and implement effective migration policies, to protect and assist asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants and to discourage irregular migration. This funding is all the more vital given the significant increases in the irregular migration of people, including unaccompanied children and victims of human trafficking, who may not qualify for protections provided under international law to refugees, but who nevertheless face significant risks of exploitation at the hands of unscrupulous smugglers and human traffickers. The FY 2018 request will provide modest but essential funding for assistance to some of the most vulnerable migrants, primarily through IOM. These include programs to protect and assist victims of xenophobic attacks, human trafficking, and other human rights abuses. The FY 2018 request also includes funds for the U.S. government's contribution to IOM.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- Working with IOM and a number of partner governments, PRM completed the *Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Guidelines*, which were presented to governments, international organizations and civil society at the UN in June 2016. This new tool is intended for use by the international community to prepare for and respond to the needs of migrants caught in countries experiencing conflict or natural disaster. The United States continues to support capacity-building efforts, implemented by IOM, to assist countries in adopting the Guidelines.
- The United States continued its strong leadership and cooperation to address a wide variety of international migration issues in the Global Forum on Migration and Development; the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum, and Refugees; the Regional Conference on Migration; the U.S.-EU Platform for Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum and Migration; and the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) International Dialogue on Migration. For example, within the Regional Conference on Migration (comprised of Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and the United States), PRM worked with Member States in 2016-2017 to collectively address a surge in extra-continental irregular migrants from Cuba, Haiti, and Southeast Asia who had overwhelmed the region, developing a coordinated response that drastically reduced such flows, while building government capacity to humanely manage migration emergencies.
- PRM funding for IOM's regional programs demonstrated notable successes, including:
 - *In the Americas*: PRM supported a project to build the capacity of government officials and civil society in Central America and Mexico to identify, protect and assist vulnerable migrants, and directly contributed to El Salvador's passage of the Migration Act, which will place Migration Child Protection Officers on its borders to conduct protection screening of unaccompanied minors, Guatemala's reform of its Immigration Act, which now criminalizes migrant smuggling and metes out six to eight year prison sentences for smuggling, and

Honduras' implementation of a national program for the comprehensive care of migrant children, adolescents, and their families.

- *Dominican Republic:* PRM contributions to IOM provided technical, operational, and financial support for the implementation of the Dominican government's national regularization plan, and assisted vulnerable Haitian migrants to access the regularization plan. In addition, IOM trained Dominican government officials and NGO staff on the identification and protection of minor-aged trafficking victims.
- *Horn of Africa:* PRM continued to address unsafe migration in the Horn of Africa by supporting mixed migration task forces in Ethiopia, Djibouti, Yemen, Somaliland, and Puntland co-chaired by IOM and UNHCR. PRM funding allowed IOM to continue running Migration Response Centers located along major transit routes from the Horn of Africa to the Arabian Peninsula and Sudan. These centers continue to support governments with technical assistance to provide services to stranded migrants, while completing registration and protection screening for beneficiaries.
- *North Africa:* Despite ongoing security challenges in the region, the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force continued to facilitate data sharing on mixed migration trends and vulnerable migrants and coordination among countries and international organizations in the region. In Libya, continued conflict and security threats prevented training inside the country but the program was able to provide critical medical, voluntary return and psychological assistance to detained migrants and migrants brought to shore by the Libyan Coast Guard after being rescued at sea, while upholding the human rights of vulnerable migrants. IOM, in cooperation with UNHCR and other UN agencies, is working to ensure that increasing numbers of migrants are protected in Tunisia.



An event featuring music and dancing performances from the different migrant communities in Egypt organized by IOM to mark International Migrants Day and celebrate the positive contributions of migrants to both host communities and communities of origin. December 2016. Photo by IOM.

- *East & Southeast Asia:* In China, PRM migration programs generated a significant increase in the depth and breadth of the inter-ministry policy dialogue on the growing challenge of marriage migration from greater Mekong sub region countries into China and guided a growing acceptance across relevant agencies of the need to enhance and better integrate China's counter-trafficking legislation. In Southeast Asia, PRM supported the Migrant Resource Center in Poi Pet City, Cambodia, where migrants receive information about their rights and referrals to public services to obtain identification documents and to job centers for employment/skill opportunities. This project also contributed return assistance for trafficked fisherman by providing food, temporary shelter, transportation and psychosocial services.
- *Western Balkans:* With PRM funds, IOM worked with border guards and police authorities in the Western Balkans to identify and refer unaccompanied children to appropriate service providers and to work with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Montenegro on developing emergency preparedness and contingency planning for responding to new potential migration scenarios. IOM also improved coordination amongst border officials in different countries through support for Regional Committees on Mixed Migration building on an IOM-UNHCR Regional Initiative.
- Support to the IOM program "Support to Trafficking Victims Found in the USA: Global Return and Reintegration, and Family Reunification" allowed for the reunification of 279 family members with their relatives who had been trafficked to the United States and helped 2 trafficking victims voluntarily return to their home countries.

FY 2017 Objectives

- Advance U.S. positions on international migration through interagency coordination and active participation in United Nations consultations and negotiations to develop a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration, as well as in complementary multilateral fora, such as the G-7, G-20, Organization of American States, and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.
- Encourage migration management policies that protect the rights and respect the dignity of migrants while also preserving states' abilities to enforce their immigration laws, secure their borders, and ensure the safe, orderly, and regular movement of people into and out of their countries.
- Support regional dialogues on migration and multilateral activities that build the capacity of governments to manage migration, protect vulnerable migrants, and provide assistance to vulnerable migrants.
- Encourage coordination and collaboration between IOM and UNHCR and other international organizations on mixed migration issues.
- Support implementation of the MICIC Guidelines and related efforts to increase other government capacities to respond to migration crises by developing humane, migrant-focused emergency response processes and procedures.

Humanitarian Migrants to Israel

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Enduring	10,000	*	7,500	-2,500

FY 2018 Request

The FY 2018 MRA enduring request helps identify durable solutions for populations of concern by maintaining U.S. government support for relocation and integration of Jewish migrants to Israel, including those from the former Soviet Union, Near East, and Ethiopia.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- The Humanitarian Migrants to Israel program supported the United Israel Appeal (UIA) to promote the emigration of Jewish migrants to Israel and their successful integration into Israeli society. In FY 2016, JAFI assisted 38,000 Jewish humanitarian migrants who traveled to or had already arrived in Israel. Services included transportation, transitional housing, education and vocational training, and Hebrew language instruction.
- In FY 2016, the program exceeded its goal of reaching 95 percent satisfaction among beneficiaries for services received through the program; actual satisfaction reached 95.5 percent of households interviewed.
- Ninety-four percent of humanitarian migrants from the former Soviet Union received effective Hebrew language training, advancing one grade level, exceeding the target of 90 percent.
- Eighty-eight percent of humanitarian migrants from Ethiopia received effective Hebrew language training, advancing one grade level, exceeding the target of 80 percent.
- Ninety-nine percent of post-high school students completed a one-year program to prepare them for university-level education or technological programs in Israel, exceeding the target of 88 percent.

FY 2017 Objectives

- UIA/JAFI programming and engagement with national authorities increases opportunities for humanitarian migrants to secure housing and become self-sufficient.
- Continue to provide high quality services to humanitarian migrants as evidenced by high levels of satisfaction.
- Continue to adjust to the changing profile of humanitarian migrants to maximize the likelihood for successful integration into Israel.
- Improve program efficiency to reduce the time migrants stay in absorption centers.
- Strengthen quantitative and qualitative reporting received by UIA and JAFI, to include challenges faced in program implementation.



A family from the former Soviet Union prepares to depart for Israel. March 2016. Photo by UIA.

Refugee Admissions

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance	462,700	*	410,000	-52,700

FY 2018 Request

The FY 2018 MRA enduring request will maintain support for the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, which represents a key element of refugee protection and an important solution when repatriation and local integration are not possible. Funding will enable international and non-governmental organizations to help refugees and certain other categories of special immigrants to resettle in communities across the United States.

Resettlement in the United States takes place in over 180 communities in 49 states. Over 350 refugee service providers receive funding from the Department of State to provide initial services to refugees. The majority of these organizations are faith-based and have strong partnerships with churches, synagogues, mosques, and community volunteers to welcome refugees and help with integration. The resettlement program focuses on early employment and self-sufficiency with refugees quickly contributing to the local economy.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- In FY 2016 the United States admitted 84,994 refugees. For the fourth year in a row, this represents nearly 100 percent of the worldwide refugee admissions ceiling established by Presidential Determination.
- Refugees resettled to the United States in FY 2016 included 16,370 from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 12,587 from Syria, 12,347 from Burma, 9,880 from Iraq and 9,020 from Somalia, among refugees of several other nationalities. Consolidated operational strategies led to increased efficiency and volume of operations, leading to the largest number of Congolese refugees arrived in any fiscal year to date.
- Over 141,000 Iraqis have been resettled via the U.S. refugee program since 2007, including over 46,700 who were affiliated with the United States government efforts in Iraq by family ties or employment. Nearly 10,000 Iraqis arrived in the United States in FY 2016.
- PRM expanded refugee processing initiatives in Central America by allowing additional categories of eligible family members to request admission to the United States via the Central American Minors (CAM) program and through the funding and establishment of the Protection Transfer Arrangement between Costa Rica, IOM, and UNHCR to host vulnerable individuals as they await refugee processing for onward resettlement.
- PRM continued to support interagency efforts led by the Department of Homeland Security to enhance the existing rigorous security screening regime for refugees prior to their arrival in the United States, always prioritizing the safety and security of the American people.
- Through the Leaders' Summit on Refugees on the margins of the UN General Assembly in 2016, many new countries pledged to resettle refugees. At least 18 countries across four continents committed to starting or significantly expanding UNHCR-facilitated resettlement programs, or announced plans to significantly increase their admission of refugees based on family reunification, scholarships, or humanitarian visas. Seven countries committed to resettle and/or admit at least ten times more refugees than they did in 2015.

- In FY 2016, the United States helped to establish the Emergency Resettlement Country Joint Support Mechanism (ERCM) – a joint project of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) – which will provide both financial and technical assistance to countries that are interested in establishing or expanding refugee resettlement programs.
- In its domestic reception and placement efforts for refugees, PRM formalized a process by which refugees coming to join family members in locations beyond the reach of existing resettlement agencies in the United States have the support of local organizations via an agreement with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. In FY 2016, 77 families comprising 233 individuals were assisted in this manner.

FY 2017 Objectives

- Continue to demonstrate U.S. leadership on refugee resettlement and persuade other countries to increase their refugee resettlement quotas.
- Work with overseas and domestic partners to achieve optimal processing capacity corresponding to the number of refugee arrivals.
- Strategically leverage U.S. resettlement in order to increase refugee protection in countries of first asylum and other resettlement countries.
- Address the ongoing humanitarian challenges in Central America, particularly for the many vulnerable individuals attempting to leave the region and come to the United States, while also promoting safe and orderly migration and border security.
- Work with UNHCR to expand a resettlement program from Northern Iraq for survivors of ISIS atrocities, many of whom are Yezidi, Christian, and other religious minorities.
- With our domestic resettlement partners, continue to achieve the best possible outcomes for refugees placed in communities throughout the United States.



A Congolese refugee family at a PRM-funded transit center in western Tanzania prepares to depart to the United States through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. January 2017. Photo by IOM.

Administrative Expenses

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Migration and Refugee Assistance – Enduring	42,825	*	45,000	2,175

FY 2018 Request

PRM oversees all programs funded through MRA-enduring and MRA-OCO appropriations, as well as any funding transferred to PRM from other accounts. The \$45.0 million in MRA enduring funds requested in FY 2018 will ensure monitoring of critical humanitarian programs. The largest portion of administrative expenses will cover the salary, benefits, and travel costs of U.S. direct hire staff, including regional refugee coordinators posted in U.S. embassies around the world.

FY 2016 Accomplishments

- In 2016, PRM’s direct hire staff, including regional refugee coordinators stationed at 23 U.S. Embassies and Missions around the world, helped maintain global USG humanitarian leadership through active diplomatic engagement with refugee-hosting countries, including in Chad, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Kenya, Nepal, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Thailand, Turkey and Uganda.
- In FY 2016, Bureau staff actively engaged and oversaw emergency operations in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. In response to humanitarian crises stemming from conflicts, PRM staff deployed to Ukraine, Greece, Nigeria, Iraq and Turkey.
- Management and oversight of growing humanitarian assistance and admissions programs remained a top priority for the Bureau in FY 2016. Throughout the year, Washington staff and overseas refugee coordinators regularly monitored humanitarian operations worldwide.
- In addition to responding to multiple humanitarian emergencies and continuing strong program oversight, PRM staff were instrumental in supporting U.S. leadership at three unprecedented, high-level events in 2016: the World Humanitarian Summit, the UN High-Level Meeting on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants, and the Leaders’ Summit on Refugees.
- PRM continued to ensure close coordination and oversight of the key international organizations it supports, including through regular site visits and shaping the work of these organizations through active participation in governing boards and donor meetings held throughout the year.

FY 2017 Priorities

- Maintain robust humanitarian diplomatic engagement to help protect the world’s most vulnerable people.
- Strengthen and enhance overseas and domestic staffing to ensure strong management and oversight of admissions and assistance programs worldwide are being met. This will require on-going administrative support to meet highly demanding program management and diplomatic responsibilities.
- Continue to enhance the monitoring and evaluation of humanitarian partners to ensure accountability, program effectiveness, and maximum benefit for populations of concern on behalf of American taxpayers.

- Conduct active monitoring and oversight of emergency humanitarian operations.
- Continue to exercise due diligence to ensure that USG funds are provided only to recipients with no links to terrorist organizations.



PRM Program Officer Chris Upchurch discusses health and nutrition screening for new South Sudanese refugee arrivals, with UNHCR and NGO staff at the Pagak Transit Center in Ethiopia's Gambella Region. November 2016. Photo by UNHCR.

Summary of External Evaluations

Consistent with the U.S. Department of State's evaluation policy and guidance, PRM has commissioned external evaluations of its programs. These evaluations are funded through the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) account. They do not include evaluations commissioned by PRM partners (such as UNHCR, ICRC, IOM, UNRWA) that are supported by U.S. contributions to those organizations. Detailed information on PRM's external evaluations is available on the Bureau's public website at <https://www.state.gov/j/prm/policyissues/prmfund/index.htm>.

The findings from the evaluations are used to identify best practices for PRM staff and partners and to help inform funding recommendations, policy development, program design and monitoring, and to influence PRM engagement with host governments, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations on relevant issues.

Completed Evaluations

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Programs to Build the Capacity of Colombian Municipal Authorities to Assist Internally Displaced Persons

Summary: PRM funded an evaluation assessing the effectiveness of capacity-building programming for municipal authorities that provide services for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Colombia. The evaluation explored: (1) the qualities of successful governmental capacity-building programs; (2) whether PRM-supported programs were designed and implemented using best practices; (3) whether PRM-supported capacity-building programs, including efforts to build knowledge and provide tools, demonstrably improved assistance to IDPs, and (4) any unintended consequences that occurred as a result of the capacity-building programs. Findings noted that PRM-funded NGOs provided training, technical assistance, and guidance tools with success. The NGOs employed several best practices, including: (1) consulting with the Government or Colombia at national and municipal levels; (2) operating with a high level of expertise; (3) developing guidance materials that explain complex laws and related procedures clearly; and (4) employing pre-tests and post-tests. The evaluation recommended that PRM take steps to transition out of some municipalities using several criteria, such as encouraging NGOs to continue using relevant tools to gauge capacity, including a municipal capacity assessment. Findings prompted changes to PRM guidelines for NGOs applying to Notice of Funding Opportunities, including new requirements on the use of standardized indicators for local government capacity-building programs. The evaluation also produced tools to assist PRM staff in reviewing proposals and monitoring local government capacity building programs in the field.



PRM Refugee Specialist visiting a PRM-funded education program in Akkar, Lebanon. April 2016.

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Shelter, Health, and Education Programs for Iraqi and Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, Turkey and Jordan

Summary: This evaluation explored PRM-funded shelter, health, and education programs for Iraqi and Syrian refugees implemented by selected PRM multilateral and NGO partners in Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey. The evaluation consisted of an analysis of best practices/recurring mistakes regarding the implementation of shelter, health, and education programming for refugees in the Near East. Findings noted that the majority of beneficiaries interviewed across all three countries were satisfied with the services provided by PRM partners and reported improvements in their

quality of life. The report also commended PRM-supported programs for building upon existing structures, enhancing existing capacities, and filling gaps to address specific needs of Syrian refugees where government-supported services were unavailable. However, the evaluation also discovered there was a lack of consistency among partners with regard to providing information to refugees about their access to or denial of program benefits, and financial constraints limited the provision of important services to highly and severely vulnerable refugees. Some of the recommendations for PRM included (1) Ensuring—and making any necessary improvements for—targeting of and support to the most vulnerable Syrian, Iraqi, and other non-Syrian refugees; (2) improving outreach to beneficiaries and vulnerable groups, and involving beneficiaries in program design; (3) continuing advocacy, coordination, and information-sharing efforts with central and local host governments, donors, and NGO partners; and (4) ensuring that host communities are included in programming, when appropriate, to strengthen social cohesion and integration. The country-specific evaluation reports have been used to address identified program concerns. The overall evaluation report will be used to inform shelter, health and education program proposal reviews, field monitoring, and NGO funding guidelines.

Ongoing Evaluations

Evaluating the Effectiveness of PRM Multilateral Partners Assisting IDPs and Preparing for the Eventual Transition from Relief to Development in Ukraine

Summary: This evaluation seeks to identify: (1) the qualities of successful local integration programs for IDPs; (2) whether PRM’s partners made use of best practices in their programming and engagement; (3) whether PRM’s partners appropriately assessed gaps in government humanitarian and integration assistance; and (4) any unintended consequences that occurred as a result of local integration efforts. The evaluation will also analyze the external factors that may influence the long-term effectiveness of IDP integration in Ukraine.

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Regional Migration Program Models on Providing Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants in Mesoamerica and the Horn of Africa

Summary: This evaluation is examining: (1) the elements of successful migration management and assistance to vulnerable migrants; (2) whether PRM-supported programs were designed and implemented using the identified elements of successful migration management; (3) whether PRM-supported migration management programs effectively increased the capacity of governments to more humanely manage migration; (4) any issues of concern that occurred as a result of the capacity building programs; and (5) whether and how PRM should refine the Regional Migration Program Model in the future. The evaluation includes field evaluations in Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Mexico and analyzes the external factors that influence the effectiveness of the Regional Migration Program Model, such as political factors and geographical challenges.

U.S. Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA)

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Request	Increase / Decrease
Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance – Enduring	50,000	49,905	-	-49,905
Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance – Overseas Contingency Operations	-	-	-	-

No funding is being requested for the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) Account in FY 2018.

Over the past five fiscal years, an average of \$34.2 million was drawn from ERMA annually to address unexpected refugee and migration needs.

In **FY 2016**, the President drew \$70.0 million from the Fund and delegated to the Department of State:

- \$70.0 million was used to support an increase to 85,000 of the U.S. worldwide refugee admissions level for FY 2016 and to prepare for an anticipated admissions level of 100,000 in FY 2017.

In **FY 2015**, there was no funding drawn from the Fund.

In **FY 2014**, the President drew \$50.0 million from the Fund and delegated to the Department of State:

- \$50.0 million provided shelter, health care, education, and protection to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in South Sudan and South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries.

In **FY 2013**, the President drew \$15.0 million from the Fund and delegated to the Department of State:

- \$15.0 million provided shelter, health care, education, and protection to IDPs in Syria and Syrian refugees in neighboring countries.

In **FY 2012**, the President drew \$36.0 million from the Fund and delegated to the Department of State:

- \$10.0 million provided shelter, protection, and health and nutrition assistance to IDPs in Mali and Malian refugees throughout the region.
- \$26.0 million addressed the humanitarian needs of Sudanese refugees in South Sudan and Ethiopia who fled conflict in the Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States of Sudan.